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INFO RUCNAFG/AFGHANISTAN COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RHEHAAA/NSC WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUEKJCS/OSD WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RHMCSSU/Joint STAFF WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 2857
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
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DEPT FOR SCA/FO DAS GASTRIGHT, SCA/A,

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SUBJECT: PRESIDENT KARZAI ISSUES DECREE ESTABLISHING
TRANSPARENT APPOINTMENTS MECHANISM, SATISFYING FIRST LONDON
COMPACT BENCHMARK

¶1. (U) On September 17, four days before the deadline, Afghanistan met the first benchmark from the London Compact (Pillar II: Governance, Rule of Law, and Human Rights) when President Karzai issued a decree establishing a Special Consultative Board to recommend candidates for Presidential appointment to posts as provincial governor, deputy minister, provincial police commanders, provincial intelligence heads, and members of the independent civil service commission (IARCSC). These posts fall below ministerial rank but lie outside the scope of the Civil Service Commission.

¶2. (U) The decree also named five individuals to the Special Consultative Board, following criteria which, according to UNAMA's Senior Governance Officer, Shakti Sinha, satisfy Compact obligations. One member (Mr. Mohammad Farid Hamidi) was named from the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission (AIHRC) at least at the level of Commissioner, nominated by the AIHRC Chairperson. Two additional persons (Mr. Enyat Enayatullah and Dr. M. Hashem Esmatullahi) were named by President Karzai, based on their standing of high repute and from diverse background. A fourth person (Ms. Homa Sabri) was nominated by the Co-Chairs of the Joint Coordination and Monitoring Board (JCMB). And the fifth person (Mr. Zakim Shah) was selected to serve by the previously-named members of the Board. Following the preference of the JCMB, the Chairperson of the Board will be selected by the Board members themselves.

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